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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

THE MOST ORIGINAL SUPER-HERO OF ALL TIME!

IN THIS GREAT ISSUE YOU WILL MEET...

ELECTRO!

A MENACE SO POWERFUL THAT SPIDER-MAN'S STRENGTH IS USELESS AGAINST HIM!

A BOOK-LENGTH COMIC COLOSSAL, PROVING AGAIN THAT THIS IS INDEED THE MARVEL AGE OF COMICS!

S. Ditko

A SCENE YOU WILL NEVER FORGET! SEE... THE DEFEAT OF SPIDER-MAN!

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SPIDER-MAN "THE MAN CALLED ELECTRO!"

A BOOK-LENGTH TRIUMPH FROM THE NEW MARVEL AGE OF COMICS!

WRITTEN BY:
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KNOW SOMETHING, LITTLE FRIEND? IF YOU'RE JUST STARTING TO READ THIS STORY, WE ***ENVY*** YOU! BECAUSE YOU'RE GONNA HAVE A ***BALL!*** THIS BOOK-LENGTH THRILLER FEATURES A REALLY FASCINATING SUPER-VILLAIN; IT'S CHOCK-FULL OF HUMAN INTEREST AND DRAMA; AND IT SHOWS SPIDER-MAN, WITH ALL HIS HUMAN PROBLEMS AND FRAILTIES, GREATER THAN YOU'VE EVER SEEN HIM BEFORE! BUT DON'T TAKE ***OUR*** WORD FOR IT--AFTER ALL, ***WE'RE*** SPIDEY'S BEST BOOSTERS! SEE WHAT ***YOU*** THINK...

AS OUR TALE BEGINS, A STARTLED GROUP OF PEDESTRIANS IN NEW YORK SEE ONE OF THE MOST COLORFUL CHARACTERS OF ALL TIME DASH PAST THEM AT DAZZLING SPEED...

LOOK! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!!

WOW! WONDER WHERE HE'S RUSHING TO??

MUST BE A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH!

IGNORING THE CROWDS AS IF THEY DON'T EXIST, THE AMAZING MASKED ADVENTURER HURTLES FROM ROOFTOP TO ROOFTOP UNTIL HE IS VIRTUALLY LOST FROM SIGHT!!

HAVE TO HURRY! NOT A MINUTE TO LOSE!

MEANWHILE, A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY...

KEEP FIRING, JOE! DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!

THE ODDS ARE AGAINST US UNLESS HELP ARRIVES!

WHAT A BREAK!! HERE COMES SPIDER-MAN! WITH HIS HELP, THOSE GUNMEN ARE AS GOOD AS FINISHED!

WE'RE SUNK! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!

MIGHT AS WELL GIVE UP NOW, WHILE WE STILL CAN!

YEAH! WE SURE CAN'T FIGHT HIM, TOO!

H-HE'S SWINGIN' RIGHT PAST US! HE DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE US!

WHAT NUTS WE WERE TO GIVE UP-- SPIDER-MAN WASN'T GONNA BUTT IN ANYWAY!

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

I'M CLOSE TO HOME NOW! MIGHT AS WELL START CHANGING TO PETER PARKER!

IT'S TOO DARK FOR ANYONE TO SEE ME, AND IT'LL SAVE ME TIME LATER!

HOME AT LAST! NOW TO RUSH UPSTAIRS!

HERE, AUNT MAY! I FILLED THE DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION AS FAST AS I COULD!

BY SWITCHING TO ***SPIDER-MAN*** --BECAUSE I KNOW HOW BADLY YOU ***NEED*** THIS MEDICINE!

THANK YOU, PETER DEAR! BUT HOW DID YOU GET BACK SO FAST?

YOU'RE ***SUCH*** A DEAR BOY, PETER! I-I'M TIRED NOW-- I THINK I'LL GO TO SLEEP!

THAT'S GOOD, AUNT MAY! THE DOCTOR SAID YOU SHOULD GET A LOT OF REST!

I HAVEN'T THE HEART TO TELL HER WHAT ***ELSE*** THE DOCTOR SAID--ABOUT HOW ILL SHE REALLY IS!

SHE'S ASLEEP NOW! BUT I'D BETTER SIT HERE IN CASE SHE NEEDS ME!

POOR AUNT MAY! SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN SO GOOD TO ME-- JUST LIKE A MOTHER! IF ONLY I COULD DO SOMETHING

AND SO, PETER PARKER KEEPS THE LONG VIGIL, NOT DREAMING THAT A STRANGE FIGURE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN IS GOING TO PLAY A VERY IMPORTANT PART IN HIS LIFE VERY SOON...

I'M ALL WIRED UP FOR WHAT I MUST DO!

I'LL GIVE MYSELF A ***FULL CHARGE*** OF ELECTRICITY TONIGHT--FOR THERE'S NO TELLING ***WHAT*** I MAY RUN INTO!

ZAP

THERE! NOW I'M READY TO TRY OUT MY NEW POWER-- AND THE WORLD IS ABOUT TO MEET-- ***ELECTRO!!***

I MIGHT AS WELL START WITH SOMETHING DIFFICULT--LIKE THAT ARMORED CAR WHICH IS CARRYING A SHIPMENT OF GOLD!

DON'T BOTHER PUTTING THAT GOLD IN THE CAR! I'LL JUST TAKE IT NOW!

FOR THE LUVVA PETE! WHAT'S THAT?

THIS TOWN IS FULL OF CRACK-POTS! SEARCH ME!

HEY!!

A CRACKPOT, AM I?? YOU'LL THINK DIFFERENTLY AFTER I'VE DISARMED YOU!

I TOLD YOU I'D TAKE THOSE BAGS!

OWW! HE'S TOSSING ELECTRIC SHOCKS!!

NATURALLY! THAT'S WHY I CALL MYSELF ELECTRO! ALL THE POWER OF ELECTRICITY IS MINE!

AND, IF YOU ARE STILL NOT CONVINCED...

...I'LL MERELY SURROUND YOU IN THIS RING OF ELECTRICITY UNTIL YOU GIVE ME THE BAGS I HAVE ASKED FOR!

DO AS HE SAYS, CHUM! THAT GUY IS A LOT MORE THAN WE CAN HANDLE!

AND, THE NEXT MORNING, BACK AT PETER PARKER'S...

GOOD THING YOU CALLED ME, PETER! YOUR AUNT IS WORSE! WE'VE GOT TO SEND HER TO THE HOSPITAL!

THE HOSPITAL.??!

BUT, PETER DEAR--IF I GO TO THE HOSPITAL, WHO'LL LOOK AFTER YOU? WHO'LL GET YOU YOUR MEALS --TAKE CARE OF YOU--??

PLEASE, AUNT MAY, DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME! THE IMPOR-TANT THING IS FOR YOU TO GET WELL! I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF--HONEST!

LATER, AT SCHOOL, PETER IS OBLIVIOUS TO THE USUAL TAUNTS OF HIS CLASSMATES...

HI, BOOKWORM! WHAT'S NEW IN DULLVILLE?

S'MATTER, TEACHER'S PET? TOO BUSY TO ANSWER US COMMON FOLKS?

I DON'T KNOW--MAYBE I'VE BEEN TOO ROUGH ON PARKER! HE'S MORE OF A MAN THAN I THOUGHT! I STILL REMEMBER THAT LAST **FIGHT** WE HAD!*

HEY, PETER, WAIT UP! I WANNA **TALK** TO YOU!

*AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #8 -- THE CASE OF "THE LIVING BRAIN!" -EDITOR

WOW! DID PETER PARKER GIVE **YOU** THE COLD SHOULDER, FLASH OLD BOY?

YEAH! THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR STARTIN' TO SOFTEN UP! PUNY PARKER ALWAYS **WAS** A BIG **ZERO,** AND HE ALWAYS **WILL** BE!

BUT THIS IS ONE TIME WHEN PETER PARKER COULDN'T CARE LESS FOR FLASH'S OPINION! A FEW MINUTES LATER WE FIND HIM AT THE HOSPITAL...

YOUR AUNT IS ALRIGHT AT THE MOMENT, SON! WE'RE NOT QUITE READY TO OPERATE YET! WOULD YOU LIKE TO **SEE** HER?

YES, DOC-- I SURE WOULD!

HELLO, AUNT MAY! I-- OH, BETTY BRANT!!

ISN'T IT **SWEET** OF BETTY, PETER? SHE CAME TO VISIT!

WHEN I HEARD ABOUT YOUR AUNT, I CAME TO SEE IF THERE WAS ANYTHING I COULD DO! HOPE YOU DON'T MIND?

MIND? GOSH NO, BETTY! I APPRECIATE IT!

PETER, YOU LOOK PALE! ARE YOU **EATING** ENOUGH, DEAR?

OF **COURSE,** AUNT MAY! NOW YOU JUST WORRY ABOUT **YOURSELF!**

LATER, WHEN VISITING HOURS ARE OVER...

DO YOU MIND IF I DON'T SEE YOU HOME, BETTY? I, EH, HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO ATTEND TO!

CERTAINLY, PETER! I KNOW YOU MUST HAVE A **LOT** ON YOUR MIND, WHAT WITH YOUR AUNT'S ILLNESS AND ALL...

BUT, AFTER PETER HAS LEFT...

IT'S STRANGE--ALTHOUGH PETER SEEMS SO CALM, AND EASY-GOING, I GET THE FEELING THAT HE'S LIKE A SMOLDERING VOLCANO INSIDE, JUST WAITING TO ERUPT!

IT'S AS THOUGH HE CARRIES A DEEP SECRET WITHIN HIM--ONE WHICH NO ONE CAN EVER SHARE!

AND, BETTY BRANT IS CLOSER TO THE TRUTH THAN SHE SUSPECTS!

I'VE GOT TO RAISE SOME MONEY **FAST!** AUNT MAY'S OPERATION WILL COST MORE THAN WE HAVE IN THE BANK!

I'LL SCOUR THE CITY UNTIL I FIND SOME SORT OF CRIME THAT I CAN PHOTOGRAPH! THEN I'LL SELL THE PIX TO J. JONAH JAMESON FOR AS MUCH AS HE'LL PAY!

OH **NO!** IT'S STARTING TO **RAIN!** I'M LICKED BEFORE I START!

MY CAMERA ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH TO TAKE CLEAR PICTURES IN THE RAIN!

SOME SUPER-HERO *I* AM! I CAN JUST SEE THE HEADLINES *NOW!* "SPIDER-MAN CALLS OFF FIGHT AGAINST CRIME DUE TO RAIN!" *PHOOEY!*

WELL, NOW THAT I'M HOME, I'D BETTER RINSE OUT MY UNIFORM BEFORE IT SHRINKS!

WITH *MY* LUCK, I'LL PROBABLY WIND UP IN BED WITH A *COLD!* HMMM... WONDER IF THE HUMAN TORCH EVER HAS SINUS TROUBLE?

OH WELL, I'LL LEAVE MY DUDS TO DRY, AND-- *HEY!* I FORGOT!!

I LEFT THE *SHADE* UP! BOY, ALL I NEED IS TO HAVE THE NEIGHBORS SEE A *SPIDER-MAN* SUIT HANGING UP HERE!

AND, FAR INTO THE LONG NIGHT...

I'VE READ THE SAME PAGE A DOZEN TIMES! HOW CAN I STUDY WITH AUNT MAY IN THE HOSPITAL, NO DOUGH FOR THE OPERATION, MY MIDTERM EXAMS COMING UP SOON-- WHAT A LIFE!

THE NEXT DAY, AT THE FOREST HILLS BANK...

BUT, MISTER JAMESON, IF YOU'LL WAIT TILL TOMORROW WE'LL HAVE ALL THOSE FIGURES FOR YOU!

NO! NOBODY KEEPS J. JONAH JAMESON WAITING! I WANT THOSE FIGURES, AND I WANT THEM *NOW!*

WELL, SIR, YOU'RE ONE OF OUR BIGGEST DEPOSITORS, SO OF COURSE WE'LL DO WHAT WE CAN!

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT! WHEN I GIVE AN ORDER, I EXPECT PEOPLE TO *HOP!!*

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, AT THE REAR ENTRANCE TO THE BANK...

SAY! WHAT WAS *THAT*-- LIGHTNING??

IT'S SOMEONE BREAKING IN-- TRYING TO ROB THE BANK! GOT TO GET TO THE ALARM AND-- *OHHH!*

ONE LOW-POWER BOLT, HITTING THE ALARM AS THE GUARD TOUCHES IT, WILL SHOCK HIM INTO UN-CONSCIOUSNESS AND ALSO SILENCE THE ALARM! HOW EASY IT IS!

I AM *ELECTRO!* DO NOT RESIST ME AND PERHAPS YOU WILL LIVE TO SEE ANOTHER DAY!

GOOD *HEAVENS!!* WHO IS *THAT??!*

WHAT IS THE ***MEANING*** OF THIS? LOOK HERE, WHO-EVER YOU ARE! YOU CAN'T DO THIS--

WELL WELL! IF IT ISN'T J. JONAH JAMESON! SO YOU THINK I CAN'T, EH?

HIS ELECTRIC BOLTS ARE HIT-TING OUR TIE PINS--BELT BUCKLES--METAL TIPPED SHOE LACES!!! STOP IT! ***STOP!***

STILL THINK I CAN'T DO THIS?? HA! YOU'RE NOT SO NOISY ***NOW!***

HE ***KNEW*** WHO I WAS! THAT'S A CLUE! HE MUST BE SOMEONE ***I*** KNOW!!

SO! THE VAULT DOOR IS SECURED BY A ***TIME LOCK!*** WELL, THAT CAN'T STOP A MAN WITH ***MY*** POWERS!

I CAN CONTROL ***ANYTHING*** THAT OPERATES ELECTRI-CALLY!

MINUTES LATER...

DON'T ANYONE FOLLOW, OR TRY TO SOUND AN ALARM! MY BOLTS CAN REACH BACK A VERY GREAT DISTANCE!

HE'S ESCAP-ING WITH A ***FOR-TUNE!***

LOOK!! THAT STRANGELY-GARBED MAN IS RACING UP THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING!

HE'S HOLDING ON TO THE IRON BEAMS IN THE BUILD-ING BY MEANS OF ELECTRIC RAYS--USING THEM LIKE A ***MAGNET!!*** INCREDIBLE!

LATER, AFTER ELECTRO HAS REACHED THE ROOF OF THE BUILDING AND THEN VANISHED, THE POLICE BEGIN TO TAKE AND COMPARE NOTES...

HE WAS AVERAGE HEIGHT--VERY CONFIDENT! NEVER SEEMED TO DOUBT HIS POWER!

WHAT ***ELSE*** CAN YOU TELL US, SIR?

THERE'S ONLY ***ONE*** PERSON I CAN THINK OF WHO IS SO POWERFUL, SO CONFIDENT--WHO CAN CLIMB SHEER BUILDINGS--AND WHO ***KNOWS*** ME! AND THERE HE IS ***NOW,*** SWINGING UP ABOVE!!

THAT'S ***IT!*** IT HAS TO BE! ELECTRO IS ***SPIDER-MAN!*** HE HID THE MONEY, CHANGED HIS DISGUISE AND HE'S LEAVING, NOW!

WHATEVER HAPPENED DOWN BELOW, IT'S ***OVER*** NOW! NO SENSE ME HANGING AROUND!

A FRANTIC MINUTE LATER...

I TELL YOU ELECTRO IS ***SPIDER-MAN!*** HE ***HAS*** TO BE-- THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!

NOW CALM DOWN, MR. JAMESON! DO YOU HAVE ANY ***PROOF??*** HOW DO YOU ***KNOW?***

PROOF?!! IT CAN'T BE ANYONE ***BUT*** SPIDER-MAN! ***THAT'S*** PROOF ENOUGH!

EVEN THOUGH WE KNOW SO LITTLE ABOUT SPIDER-MAN, HE'S ALWAYS BEEN ON THE SIDE OF THE LAW! AND YET--

DON'T LET JAMESON INFLUENCE YOU! HE'D ACCUSE SPIDER-MAN OF ANYTHING!

AND, WHEN THE NEXT EDITIONS HIT THE STREET, THE CHIEF'S PREDICTION PROVES TO BE CORRECT...

HOLY SMOKE! DO YOU THINK THE BUGLE'S ACCUSATION IS ***TRUE??***

IT ***MUST*** BE! HOW COULD THEY PRINT IT IF IT ***WEREN'T*** TRUE?!!

EXTRA DAILY BUGLE EXTRA

ELECTRO IS REALLY SPIDER-MAN!

SPIDER-MAN

ELECTRO

ON THE BASIS OF INDISPUTABLE EVIDENCE, THE BUGLE ACCUSES SPIDER-MAN OF LAUNCHING A CRIME WAVE DISGUISED AS

"IS SPIDER-MAN ELECTRO?" SUDDENLY, THAT ONE TOPIC IS ON EVERYONE'S LIPS!

SPIDER-MAN ***MUST*** BE ELECTRO!! WHY WOULD JAMESON'S PAPER ***PRINT*** IT IF IT ISN'T TRUE?

I'VE READ THE PAPER FROM FRONT TO BACK-- THEY ***STILL*** OFFER NO DEFINITE ***PROOF!***

IF SPIDER-MAN ***ISN'T*** ELECTRO, WHY DOESN'T HE ***CATCH*** HIM??

AND, BACK AT THE HOSPITAL, WHERE PETER PARKER KEEPS THE LONG VIGIL...

AS IF I DON'T HAVE ***ENOUGH*** TROUBLE AS PETER PARKER, NOW JAMESON IS MAKING THINGS HOT FOR ***SPIDER-MAN!***

THE DOCTOR WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU NOW, PETER!

WE'RE ALMOST READY TO OPERATE ON YOUR AUNT, SON!

YOU REALIZE, OF COURSE, THAT THE SPECIALIST WE HAD TO ENGAGE CHARGES A FEE OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS?

Y-YES! BUT MY AUNT'S ***LIFE*** IS AT STAKE! DO WHAT HAS TO BE DONE! I'LL GET THE MONEY-- SOMEHOW!

MINUTES LATER, IN JAMESON'S PRIVATE OFFICE AT THE DAILY BUGLE...

A THOUSAND DOLLARS?? DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU'RE ASKING??! WHAT ON EARTH DO YOU ***NEED*** IT FOR??

IT'S A ***PERSONAL*** MATTER, MR. JAMESON! BUT IT'S VERY IMPORTANT!

SURE! SURE! YOU PROBABLY SAW A HOT-ROD YOU WANT TO BUY! I ***NEVER*** LEND MONEY, PARKER-- YOU SHOULD ***KNOW*** THAT! BUT, IF YOU CAN BRING ME PHOTOGRAPHIC PROOF THAT SPIDER-MAN IS ELECTRO, I'LL GLADLY ***GIVE*** YOU THE MONEY!

SAY! THAT GIVES ME AN ***IDEA!!***

EXACTLY FIFTY SECONDS LATER...

WHAT A ***FOOL*** I AM! THERE'S A BIG ***REWARD*** FOR ELECTRO'S CAPTURE! IF I CAN NAB HIM, I WON'T HAVE TO BEG THE MONEY FROM ***ANYONE!***

AND SO THE GRIM SEARCH BEGINS...

SOMEONE ON THAT ROOF BELOW... PROWLING IN THE DARK! WHAT A STROKE OF *LUCK!*

YEAH, JUST LIKE MY USUAL LUCK--ALL *BAD!* IT'S JUST A GUY WITH A TELESCOPE--STAR-GAZING!

HOUR AFTER HOUR, ALL THROUGH THE LONG NIGHT, SPIDER-MAN CONTINUES TO SEARCH--CONTINUES TO HOPE AGAINST HOPE, AS HIS CHANCES FOR SUCCESS NARROW WITH EACH TICK OF THE CLOCK!

I MUST FIND ELECTRO!! I *MUST!!*

THAT LIGHT--FLASHING FROM THAT DARKENED BUILDING!! PERHAPS--??

ANOTHER FALSE ALARM! JUST SOME WORKMEN MAKING EMERGENCY REPAIRS ON A POWER LINE!

AND *STILL* THE SEARCH CONTINUES, UNTIL AT LAST...

WAIT!! WHAT'S THAT *TINGLING* I SEEM TO FEEL??

IT'S MY *SPIDER-SENSE!* IT'S A *WARNING!* HE'S SOMEWHERE *NEAR* HERE! HE *MUST* BE!

I WAS *RIGHT*--AT LAST! THERE HE IS *NOW!*

HE'S USING HIS ELECTRIC POWER LIKE A *MINE DETECTOR!* HE JUST LOCATED A HIDDEN SAFE IN THAT DESERTED APARTMENT!

JEWELS! MONEY! NO MATTER HOW MUCH I TAKE, I WANT MORE--MUCH MORE! AND WITH MY GREAT POWER, NOTHING CAN STOP ME FROM *GETTING* IT!

MY TROUBLES ARE OVER AT LAST!! I'LL LET HIM LEAD ME TO HIS HIDEOUT, RECOVER HIS STOLEN LOOT, CAPTURE HIM, AND GET MY REWARD FROM THE POLICE!

MIGHT AS WELL TAKE A FEW *PIX* OF HIM WHILE I'M AT IT, TOO!

BUT, AS THE SAYING GOES--"THE BEST LAID PLANS OF MICE AND MEN SO OFTEN GO ASTRAY!" FOR, AT THAT INSTANT, ELECTRO **SEES** SPIDER-MAN!

SPIDER-MAN!! LUCKY FOR ME I CAUGHT YOUR REFLECTION IN THE MIRROR ON THE WALL!

THAT WAS CARELESS OF ME--BUT, NO HARM DONE! **I'LL STILL** CATCH HIM!

I'VE BEEN **HOPING** WE'D MEET! I'VE BEEN ANXIOUS TO PROVE THAT **MY** POWER IS FAR GREATER THAN **YOURS!**

-WHEW- HE HURLED THAT LIGHTNING BOLT BEFORE I KNEW WHAT HAPPENED! I DUCKED IT ONLY BY SHEER DUMB LUCK!

NO TIME TO KID AROUND! I'LL HAVE TO USE MY WEB--**FAST!**

AHH! GOT YOU!

THWAP!

STILL WANT TO BRAG ABOUT YOUR POWER, PLAYMATE? YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF CHANCE TO DO SO WHEN YOU'RE TELLIN' IT TO THE JUDGE!

THIS CORNY WEB OF YOURS WON'T STOP **ME!** MY ELECTRIC RAYS CAN BURN OUT OF **ANYTHING!**

AND ANYONE STUPID ENOUGH TO **TOUCH** ME WHILE MY BODY IS IN "ELECTRIC SHOCK CONDITION" HAS ONLY HIMSELF TO BLAME FOR THE CONSEQUENCES!

OHHHHH...!

I DIDN'T **MEAN** TO DO THAT--BUT IT WAS HIS OWN FAULT! HE DIDN'T GIVE ME A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN THE DANGER OF TOUCHING ME! WELL, WITH **HIM** OUT OF THE WAY, NO SINGLE HUMAN IS STRONG ENOUGH TO CHALLENGE ME!

BUT, IF SPIDER-MAN UNDER-ESTIMATED ELECTRO'S POWER-- ELECTRO IS GUILTY OF THE SAME MISTAKE ABOUT SPIDER-MAN! THE MASTER CRIMINAL HAS FAILED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THAT SPIDER-MAN'S SPIDER-INDUCED STRENGTH ENABLES HIM TO SURVIVE A SHOCK THAT CAN KILL AN ORDINARY HUMAN!

WHEW! MY HEAD! THAT ALMOST *FINISHED* ME!

NOT A TRACE OF ELECTRO! HE'S *GONE!*

ONLY *ONE* WAY TO GET THAT MONEY NOW! I'LL TAKE SOME PIX OF *MYSELF,* AND THEN SUPER-IMPOSE THEM OVER ELECTRO'S PICTURES! IT'LL LOOK AS THOUGH I SNAPPED ELECTRO CHANGING INTO SPIDER-MAN!

THE NEXT DAY...

JUST WHAT I *WANTED!* PHOTOGRAPHIC PROOF THAT SPIDER-MAN IS ELECTRO! DON'T KNOW HOW YOU *DID* IT, BUT HERE'S YOUR CHECK, PARKER!

I HATE TAKING MONEY UNDER FALSE PRETENSES--BUT I'LL MAKE UP FOR IT--SOMEHOW!

I'VE NEVER CHEATED ANYONE BEFORE! IT FEELS *TERRIBLE!* IF IT WEREN'T SUCH AN EMERGENCY...

IS YOUR AUNT *WORSE,* PETER? YOU--YOU LOOK SO *WORRIED!*

NO, BETTY-- I'M NOT WORRIED--

JUST FEELING AWFULLY ASHAMED OF MYSELF!

THE NEXT EDITION OF J. JONAH JAMESON'S PAPER PLASTERS THE NEWS ALL OVER THE FRONT PAGE...

ILY BUGLE EXTRA

PROOF THAT SPIDER-MAN IS ELECTRO!

THESE PHOTOS, TAKEN BY A BUGLE STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER, SHOW SPIDER-MAN AND ELECTRO IN THE SAME AREA, WITHIN SECONDS OF EACH OTHER!... THE BUGLE DARES SPIDER-MAN TO DISPROVE OUR CLAIM! [illegible]

AND, IN THE HOURS THAT FOLLOW, THE SENSATIONAL STORY IS ON EVERYONE'S LIPS...

JAMESON'S A *NUT!* WHY SHOULD SPIDER-MAN TAKE *ANOTHER* IDENTITY! NOBODY EVEN KNOWS WHO *SPIDER-MAN* IS!

MAYBE HE WANTS TO POSE AS ELECTRO AND THEN LATER PRETEND THAT HE *KILLED* ELECTRO, TO BECOME A HERO!

MR. JAMESON WOULDN'T PRINT IT IF IT WEREN'T *TRUE!*

BUT HE COULD MAKE A *MISTAKE!*

AND, IN A SECRET HIDEOUT, IN THE HEART OF THE CITY...

HA HA! JAMESON WILL HAVE A LONG WAIT IF HE'S GONNA WAIT FOR SPIDER-MAN TO DISPROVE *ANYTHING!*

NOW, WITH SPIDER-MAN OUT OF THE WAY, I'LL REALLY KEEP THINGS POPPING AROUND HERE! NOBODY WILL EVEN *REMEMBER* SPIDER-MAN WHEN *I'M* FINISHED!

AND NOBODY EVEN REMOTELY SUSPECTS WHO ELECTRO *REALLY IS!!* NOBODY KNOWS THAT I *USED* TO BE AN ORDINARY ELECTRIC LINEMAN NAMED MAX DILLON!

MAX, I *NEED* YOU! HARRIS IS IN TROUBLE ON A HIGH TENSION POLE! YOU'VE GOT TO HELP HIM DOWN!

FORGET IT! I DON'T DO ANYTHING FOR *NOTHING!* HOW MUCH *BONUS* WILL YOU GIVE ME?

BUT THE MAN'S *LIFE* IS IN DANGER! AND YOU'RE OUR BEST POLE MAN! OKAY-- YOU WIN! WE'LL PAY A HUNDRED BUCKS!

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT! NOW DON'T GET YOUR JAWS IN AN UPROAR! I'LL BRING 'IM DOWN!

DILLON IS A *RAT!* HE'D HAVE *LEFT* HARRIS UP THERE IF I DIDN'T OFFER TO PAY HIM! IF HE WASN'T OUR BEST POLE MAN I'D BOUNCE HIM IN A SECOND!

"BUT I DIDN'T CARE WHAT *ANY-BODY* THOUGHT OF ME--AND THEN, IT *HAPPENED!* A MILLION TO ONE CHANCE! I WAS WORK-ING ALONE ON A POLE, WHEN *LIGHTNING STRUCK!*"

ZZZZZZZZ

"I SHOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED INSTANTLY, BUT BY A FANTASTIC FREAK OF FATE--DUE TO THE WAY I HAD BEEN GRASPING THE ELECTRIC WIRES--THE TWO BOLTS OF CURRENT CANCELLED EACH OTHER, AND..."

I-I'M STILL *ALIVE!*

IN FACT, I FEEL BETTER -- STRONGER THAN EVER!

"A SHORT TIME LATER, WHEN SOME WIRE CLOTHES HANGERS GOT TANGLED OVER MY ARM, I DIS-COVERED THE *TRUTH* ABOUT MYSELF--"

HEY! THERE'S *CURRENT* PASSING FROM MY BODY--THROUGH THE HANGERS--MAKING MY FINGERS *SPARK!!*

ZZZZZZZZ

"I'M NO FOOL! I INSTANTLY REALIZED THE ACCIDENT HAD CHARGED MY BODY WITH *ELEC-TRICITY!* I RACED HOME AND BEGAN TO EXPERIMENT--TO SEE HOW POWERFUL I REALLY WAS..."

IT'S UNBELIEVABLE! MY BODY KEEPS *RECHARGING* IT-SELF! I'M LIKE A LIVING ELECTRICAL GENERATOR!!

THE MORE I PRACTICE, THE MORE SKILLED I BECOME! I CAN DO *ANYTHING* WITH MY ELECTRIC POWER! I CAN *THROW* IT--USE IT AS A WEAPON--

"TAKING EVERY CENT I HAD IN THE WORLD, I BOUGHT A RUN-DOWN HOUSE, AND EQUIPPED IT LIKE AN ELECTRICITY LAB!"

WITH THESE DEVICES, I CAN *INCREASE* MY POWER! THERE'S *NOTHING* I CANNOT DO!

"FINALLY, I RAN COMPLETELY OUT OF MONEY! BUT THAT DIDN'T WORRY *ME!*"

I'LL DISGUISE MYSELF--TAKE THE NAME *ELECTRO*--AND GET ALL THE DOUGH I WANT!

A FEW HOURS LATER, THE EXTRA-ORDINARY SUPERCHARGED CRIMINAL USES HIS GREAT POWER TO FORCE HIS WAY INTO A LOCKED DOWN-TOWN BUILDING...

THERE ARE OVER A DOZEN PRISONERS HERE, WAITING FOR TRANSFER TO THE FEDERAL PEN! I'LL SET THEM FREE--GET THEM TO JOIN ME--TO BE MY FLUNKIES!!

ONCE INSIDE, ELECTRO MOVES SWIFTLY...

I CAN'T FIGHT ALL THE POLICE WHO WILL BE COMING AFTER ME!

SO I'LL SET UP AN ELECTRIC BARRIER TO KEEP THEM BACK UNTIL I'VE FINISHED MY JOB!

AND, MINUTES LATER, AS PETER PARKER IS ON HIS WAY TO THE HOSPITAL, HE HEARS...

CALLING ALL CARS!! *ELECTRO* HAS BROKEN INTO THE WEST SIDE HOUSE OF DETENTION! ALL CARS PROCEED TO THE AREA!

ELECTRO AGAIN! AS SOON AS I SEE AUNT MAY AND MAKE SURE SHE'S OKAY, I'LL GO AFTER HIM--AS *SPIDER-MAN!*

BUT, AT THE HOSPITAL...

WE'RE READY TO OPERATE! YOUR AUNT HAS BEEN CALLING FOR YOU--SHE WANTS YOU TO *BE* HERE TILL IT'S OVER!

THEN I *CAN'T* TACKLE ELECTRO YET! NOT IF AUNT MAY WANTS ME-- NEEDS ME! I CAN'T RUN OUT ON HER!

DON'T WORRY, AUNT MAY! EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT! I *KNOW* IT WILL!

YOU-- YOU WON'T *LEAVE* ME, DEAR--??

I'LL BE RIGHT HERE ALL THE TIME-- I PROMISE!

PLEASE--PLEASE LET AUNT MAY COME THROUGH THIS ALL RIGHT!! SHE--SHE'S BEEN LIKE A MOTHER TO ME ALL THESE DIFFICULT YEARS--!

PETER--I CAME TO WAIT WITH YOU! I KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO BE ALONE AT A TIME LIKE THIS!

BETTY!

MAYBE I HAVEN'T *MANY* FRIENDS--BUT ONE *WONDERFUL* ONE LIKE BETTY MAKES UP FOR ALL I HAVEN'T GOT!

AND SO, THE LONG MINUTES TICK BY, AS TWO FIGURES SIT IN THE SILENT WAITING ROOM-- EACH DEEP IN THOUGHT--SHARING A BOND WHICH NEEDS NO WORDS TO EXPLAIN!

MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE THE HOUSE OF DETENTION...

HA! STILL NO SIGN OF *SPIDER-MAN!* THIS *PROVES* I'M RIGHT! HE CAN'T COME TO BATTLE ELECTRO BECAUSE HE HIMSELF IS ELECTRO!!

AND, WITHIN THE DETENTION HOUSE WALLS...

THIS IS OUR CHANCE! WE'RE *FREE!* LET'S *GO!*

WAIT! I OPENED THE IRON GATES FOR YOU! *I* GIVE THE ORDERS! YOU MUST OBEY ME!

IGNORE THAT NUT! HE MUST BE FROM THE PSYCHO WARD!

NO! HE'S *ELECTRO!* I *HEARD* ABOUT 'IM! MAYBE HE'S GOT A PLAN!

OUTSIDE THE BUILDING, THOSE ESCAPEES WHO *DO* TRY TO FLEE ARE QUICKLY ROUNDED UP BY THE VIGOROUS ACTION OF THE WAITING POLICE...

FUN TIME'S OVER, PAL! BACK INSIDE YOU GO!

WE SHOULD HAVE WAITED! SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO ELECTRO! OHHH!

AND, BACK AT THE HOSPITAL...

PARKER! COME IN! YOUR AUNT IS CALLING FOR YOU!

IS-- IS SHE--??

SHE'S ALL RIGHT, SON! THE OPERATION WAS A SUCCESS!

PETER-- PETER-- IS THAT YOU--? TAKE MY HAND, DEAR--

HERE I AM, AUNT MAY! YOU'RE GONNA BE WELL AGAIN! THE DOCTOR *SAID* SO!

THAT'S ENOUGH, BOY! SHE'S DOZING OFF NOW!

THE SEDATIVES WE GAVE HER WILL LET HER SLEEP TILL MORNING! THE DANGER IS OVER!

YOU LOOK LIKE *YOU* COULD USE SOME REST, TOO!

I GUESS SO! IT'S BEEN-- QUITE A STRAIN!

BETTY, AUNT MAY IS GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT! THE OPERATION WAS SUCCESSFUL!

OH, I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU, PETER!

AND NOW I'VE GOT TO GO! THEY NEED ME AT THE OFFICE! MR. JAMESON ISN'T THERE-- HE WENT TO COVER THE DETENTION HOUSE RIOT!

PETER, PLEASE DON'T GO THERE TO TAKE ANY PICTURES! IT COULD BE DANGEROUS!

BUT, BETTY-- THE DANGEROUS PIX ARE THE ONES JAMESON PAYS THE *MOST* FOR!

I WAS AFRAID OF THIS! YOU'RE BEGINNING TO *ENJOY* THE DANGER-- THE EXCITEMENT! JUST LIKE-- SOMEONE *ELSE* I ONCE KNEW--

I WISH I KNEW WHAT *REALLY* BOTHERS HER! IF ONLY SHE'D *TELL* ME SOME DAY!

MINUTES LATER, NO LONGER BURDENED BY WORRY OVER HIS AUNT, THE WORLD'S MOST DRAMATIC COSTUMED FIGURE STREAKS OVER THE ROOFTOPS OF NEW YORK--HIS HEART POUNDING WITH EXCITEMENT--HIS EVERY NERVE TINGLING WITH THE THRILL OF IMPENDING BATTLE!

AND NOW FOR--ELECTRO!

I'LL JUST TAKE AN EXTRA MINUTE TO STOP AT THE STORE BELOW AND PICK UP A FEW THINGS--A FEW LITTLE ITEMS WITH WHICH TO CONQUER ELECTRO!

THEY'LL WONDER FOR *WEEKS* WHO IT WAS THAT ENTERED THE DESERTED STORE AND LEFT SOME MONEY BEHIND!

AND, JUST A FEW MINUTES LATER...

NO SIGN OF SPIDER-MAN! THIS *PROVES* HE'S REALLY ELECTRO! I'LL PROBABLY WIN THE *PULITZER PRIZE* FOR MY SCOOP!!

THAT FOOL PARKER DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT I'D HAVE PAID *TWENTY* THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THOSE PICTURES!!

LOOK!! UP THERE --ON THE ROOF!!

HUH? UP *WHERE??*

OH *NO!! NO!!* IT CAN'T BE! *IT CAN'T!!*

THIS RUINS *EVERYTHING!* SPIDER-MAN *ISN'T* ELECTRO! ELECTRO IS STILL *INSIDE!!* I WAS WRONG!! *WRONG!!*

I'LL BE A *LAUGHING STOCK!* AND ALL BECAUSE OF PETER PARKER!

I HOPE ELECTRO HASN'T *FLED* YET! I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS!

BETTER PUT ON THESE *RUBBERS*-- AND THE *RUBBER GLOVES* I GOT AT THE STORE, TO HELP INSULATE MYSELF AGAINST HIM!

AND I'LL POSITION MY AUTOMATIC CAMERA TO GET SOME PICTURES OF WHATEVER TAKES PLACE!

AND, JUST A FEW FEET AWAY...

YOU MEN SAW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FOOLS WHO TRIED TO ESCAPE WITHOUT OBEYING MY ORDERS!! THEY WERE ALL RECAPTURED!

BUT, IF *YOU* DO EXACTLY AS I SAY--AND PROMISE TO *WORK* FOR ME--I'LL FREE YOU *ALL!*

WE'RE *WITH* YOU, ELECTRO! JUST GET US *OUTTA* HERE!

GOOD! NOW HERE'S WHAT WE'LL--

WHAT'S THAT??? NO--IT *CAN'T* BE! H-HE'S *DEAD!*

IT'S THE SIGN OF THE *SPIDER!!* *SPIDER-MAN* IS HERE!!

I KNOW IT'S BAD MANNERS TO DROP IN WITHOUT AN INVITATION, BUT I'M SURE YOU'LL FORGIVE ME JUST THIS ONCE!

YOU SURVIVED MY ATTACK *ONCE*, SPIDER-MAN--BUT I WON'T BE SO CARELESS A SECOND TIME!

JUST STAY THERE AND KEEP TALKING, MISTER! I'LL GET TO YOU IN A MINUTE!

OKAY--THAT'LL STOP YOUR PLAYMATES FOR A WHILE! AND NOW--

LET'S SEE YOU DODGE THIS ELECTRIC BOLT, YOU OVER-CONFIDENT, BRAGGART!

HE'S TOSSING METAL BEARINGS IN FRONT OF HIM! THEY'LL DEFLECT THE POWER OF THE BOLT!

ANYONE WITH ANY KNOWLEDGE OF SCIENCE KNOWS THAT ANYTHING METAL CAN ACT LIKE A LIGHTNING ROD--AS THIS STEEL *CHAIR* IS DOING!

YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME! MY CURRENT IS *INEXHAUSTIBLE* --AND YOU'LL SOON RUN OUT OF THINGS TO THROW!

YOU KIDDIN'?? I'M NOT GONNA SPEND ALL DAY *TOSSING* THINGS AT YOU!

THESE RUBBER GLOVES I'M WEARING WILL GIVE ME A CHANCE TO MASSAGE YOUR CHIN WHISKERS A WHILE--LIKE *THIS!*

THUD!

BUT, AS ELECTRO REELS BACK, BRUSHING AGAINST THE METAL CELL BARS, THE FLASH OF INTENSE CURRENT TEMPORARILY BLINDS SPIDER-MAN!

MY EYES-- CAN'T *SEE!*

HAH! ELECTRIC CURRENT *REVITALIZES* ME! NOW I'LL BE STRONGER THAN EVER!

I'VE GOT TO KEEP HIM AWAY TILL MY EYES CLEAR! THESE STEEL BEARINGS --*THEY'LL* DO THE TRICK!

HERE, SPARKY! KICK THESE AROUND FOR A WHILE!

BAH! IT'S THOSE BLASTED BEARINGS AGAIN!!!

I'LL STOP 'IM FOR YA, ELECTRO!! HEY--! *WHA--??*

DIDN'T THINK *ANYONE* WOULD BE DUMB ENOUGH TO TRY TO SNEAK UP BEHIND A FELLA WITH A *SPIDER SENSE!!*

IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION TO YOU, CHUM-- I'M PULLING MY PUNCH ALL I CAN! I ONLY WANT TO KNOCK YOU OUT--NOT *DEMOLISH* YOU!

WHAM!

WONDER WHERE *ELECTRO* DISAPPEARED TO?

UH OH! THE OTHER PRISONERS ARE TRYING TO ESCAPE VIA THE ROOF! I BETTER HEAD 'EM OFF--FAST! HAVEN'T PLAYED *LEAP-FROG* SINCE I WAS A KID!

THEN, REACHING THE TOP OF THE STAIRWAY, SPIDER-MAN TURNS, AND...

HEY! DIDN'T ANYONE EVER TEACH YOU NOT TO POINT!?? 'SPECIALLY WITH A *GUN* IN YOUR MITT!

WHAP!

LET'S GET *DOWN* AGAIN! WE CAN'T TACKLE *SPIDER-MAN!*

ANYTHING'S BETTER THAN FACIN' *HIM!*

WE DIDN'T REALIZE HOW SOFT WE HAD IT IN OUR NICE, QUIET *CELLS!*

LOOK OUT! THE *POLICE* ARE DOWN HERE!!

YOU WERE EXPECTING MAYBE THE PONY EXPRESS??

I THINK WE'VE GOT 'EM *ALL* NOW--BUT *ELECTRO'S* STILL AT LARGE!

AND, SPEAKING OF ELECTRO--

WELL, WELL! LOOK WHO'S HERE! SO YOU WERE GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN, EH?

YOU MOVE PRETTY FAST, SPIDER-MAN! BUT HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP DODGING ELECTRIC BOLTS BEFORE YOU COLLAPSE FROM SHEER EXHAUSTION??

LONG ENOUGH TO WRAP *YOU* UP, BIG MOUTH!

WELL, LITTLE MAN, I HAVE *ANOTHER* SURPRISE FOR YOU! I *CAUGHT* THE GUN THAT YOU KICKED DOWNSTAIRS! AND NOW WE'LL FIND OUT WHETHER A BULLET, OR AN ELECTRIC BOLT, CAN GET YOU *FIRST!*

AND WHAT DO YOU THINK *I'LL* BE DOING? STANDING AROUND AND *WAITING* FOR YOU?

HERE'S A BUCKET OF *SAND* FOR YOU TO CHEW ON WHILE YOU'RE MAKING UP THAT SLOW-WITTED MIND OF YOURS!

FIRE

IS *THAT* THE BEST YOU CAN DO? DON'T YOU KNOW THAT ELECTRIC CURRENT CAN TURN SAND TO *GLASS*?

SURE I KNOW IT! BUT WHILE YOU'RE BUSY SHOWING OFF, IT GIVES *ME* TIME TO SHOOT MY *WEB* AT YOUR GUN-- JAMMING IT SO YOU CAN'T FIRE! DO I MAKE MYSELF *CLEAR*??

LIVID WITH RAGE AND FRUSTRATION, ELECTRO SUDDENLY RIPS SOME HIGHLY CHARGED POWER WIRES FROM THE WALL, WHIRLING THEM MENACINGLY AROUND HIS HEAD!

YOU'VE MOCKED ME FOR THE *LAST TIME!* ANY ONE OF THESE WIRES, IF IT TOUCHES YOUR BODY, WILL RID THE EARTH OF SPIDER-MAN--*FOREVER!*

THIS IS *SERIOUS!* I CAN DEFLECT SOME OF THEM WITH MY RUBBER GLOVES-- BUT IF ONE TOUCHES MY BODY, IT'S *CURTAINS* FOR ME!

HE'S GETTING *CLOSER!* CAN'T BACK UP ANY FURTHER! WHAT HAVE I BUMPED INTO BEHIND ME???

IT'S A WATER MAIN--WITH A FIRE HOSE ATTACHED!!

SAY!! WHAT KIND OF SCIENCE MAJOR AM I, ANYWAY?? WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THIS *RIGHT AWAY??*

WATER AND ELECTRICITY JUST DON'T MIX!!! NOW, IF I CAN JUST HIT THE MARK IN TIME!!

I *DID* IT!! IT'S A REAL SHORT-CIRCUIT! IT STOPPED HIM *COLD!*

LIFE SURE IS FUNNY! HERE'S ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL CRIMINALS OF ALL TIME! AND WHAT FINALLY BEAT HIM?? JUST A DOUSING FROM A PLAIN, ORDINARY WATER HOSE!

MIGHT AS WELL REMOVE HIS MASK AND SEE WHO HE IS!

IF THIS WAS A *MOVIE*, I'D GASP IN SHOCK AND THEN I'D SAY: "*GOOD HEAVENS! THE BUTLER!*"

BUT *THIS* GUY I NEVER SAW BEFORE!

OH WELL, IT WON'T TAKE THE POLICE LONG TO FIND OUT WHO HE IS!

IN FACT, I CAN HEAR THEM COMING *NOW!* BETTER GET MY CAMERA AND GET *OUT* OF HERE!

HOPE THE PIX CAME OUT OKAY! IT'LL BE THE SCOOP OF THE YEAR!

LATER, AT THE OFFICE OF A SORELY-WORRIED J. JONAH JAMESON...

I'VE MADE A FOOL OF MYSELF! NOBODY WILL BUY MY PAPER NOW! ALL BECAUSE OF THAT BLASTED PETER PARKER!

MR. JAMESON, PETER PARKER IS HERE TO SEE YOU!

PARKER!! YOU MEAN HE DARES TO SHOW HIS MISERABLE FACE AROUND HERE! SHOW THAT BLANKETTY-BLANK ★!?*-X!? IN HERE! I'LL MAKE MINCE MEAT OF HIM!! WELL--DON'T JUST STAND THERE!!

Y-YES, SIR!! N-NO, SIR! YES SIR!

PARKER, BEFORE I FIRE YOU, I'M GONNA TELL YOU SOMETHING! I'M SUING YOU FOR FAKE PICTURES--FOR FRAUD--FOR --FOR--ANYTHING I CAN THINK OF!

RELAX, J.J.J.! YOU'RE NOT FIRING ME --AND YOU'RE NOT SUING ME!

WHAT??!!! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TALKING TO??

I'M TALKING TO A MAN WHO CAN'T FIRE ME BECAUSE I'M ONLY A FREE-LANCER! WE HAVEN'T GOT A CONTRACT! AND I'M ALSO TALKING TO A MAN WHO'S GONNA WHISTLE A DIFFERENT TUNE WHEN HE SEES THE PICTURES I HAVE FOR HIM!

MORE PICTURES? WH-WHAT KIND?

SEE FOR YOURSELF, MR. JAMESON! STILL WANNA SUE ME??

ACTION SHOTS OF ELECTRO FIGHTING SPIDER-MAN!! THEY'RE THE REAL THING! THEY'RE WORTH A FORTUNE!!

PARKER, YOU LITTLE OL' SON OF A GUN! YOU DIDN'T THINK I WAS REALLY ANGRY,÷HEH HEH÷ DID YOU?

OF COURSE NOT, J.J.J.! EVERYONE KNOWS YOU NEVER LOSE YOUR TEMPER! YOU'RE THE MOST KIND-HEARTED, LOVEABLE PUBLISHER IN THE BUSINESS!

YEAH!÷HEH HEH!÷ IT'S WRITTEN ALL OVER ME, ISN'T IT! NOW, JUST BECAUSE I'M ALL HEART, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I'LL DO--I'LL TAKE THESE PICTURES FROM YOU AND I'LL FORGIVE YOU FOR THE OTHER PICTURES! FAIR ENOUGH??

PERFECT! NOW I'LL FEEL I'VE MADE UP FOR SELLING HIM THOSE FAKED PHOTOS BEFORE!

OKAY, MR. JAMESON --IT'S A DEAL!

I'M ROBBING HIM! I'LL MAKE A FORTUNE WITH HIS PICTURES! BUT I DESERVE IT-- 'CAUSE HE'S A FOOL!

AND, THE INSTANT PETER PARKER WALKS OUT OF HIS OFFICE...

STOP THE PRESSES!! PREPARE TO REPRINT PAGE ONE!! SEND ALL DEPARTMENT HEADS IN HERE ON THE DOUBLE!

WE'RE GOING TO PUT OUT AN EXTRA!!

SO--YOU DIDN'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO ME! YOU WENT TO THE HOUSE OF DETENTION TO TAKE PICTURES AFTER ALL!

AW, DON'T BE ANGRY, BETTY! IT'S MY JOB!

LOOK, BETTY--I LIKE YOU BETTER THAN ANY GIRL I'VE EVER KNOWN! I WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING TO HURT YOU! BUT YOU CAN'T STOP ME FROM DOING WHAT I HAVE TO!

PETER, I NEVER TOLD YOU WHY I LEFT HIGH SCHOOL LAST YEAR AND TOOK A JOB! I NEVER TOLD YOU ABOUT SOMEONE I ONCE KNEW WHO--WHO REMINDED ME OF YOU! BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE HURT AGAIN!

OKAY, BETTY! I GET THE MESSAGE! SO I'M NOT MR. PERFECT! SORRY TO HAVE BOTHERED YOU!

NO! PETER--WAIT! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!

MINUTES LATER...

THE DOCTOR SAID I CAN GO HOME IN A FEW DAYS, PETER DEAR! BUT WHERE IS THAT NICE BETTY BRANT? SHE'S SUCH A SWEET GIRL!

HUH? OH, HER--SHE WAS KIND OF BUSY TODAY! ASKED ME TO GIVE YOU HER REGARDS!

FATE CAN SURE HAND A GUY SOME HARD KNOCKS!

I GOT MORE OF A SHOCK OUT OF BETTY FLARING UP, THAN I DID OUT OF ELECTRO! BUT I DIDN'T MEAN TO WALK OUT ON HER! WHAT GOT INTO ME?

I'LL HAVE TO APOLOGIZE TO HER! IF SHE EVER GOT MAD AT ME, I COULDN'T TAKE IT! NEVER REALIZED HOW MUCH I LIKE HER--NEED HER--HUH--WHO'S THAT?

PETER! WAIT--I-I'M SORRY FOR WHAT I SAID! PLEASE DON'T BE ANGRY!

AND SO, TWO THOUGHTFUL, SLIGHTLY CONFUSED YOUNG PEOPLE WALK OFF INTO THE DUSK...EACH GROPING FOR THE RIGHT WORDS TO SAY... EACH FEELING THE FIRST PANGS OF THAT EMOTION WE CALL--LOVE!

NEXT ISSUE: MORE FASCINATING DETAILS ABOUT THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF THE WORLD'S MOST AMAZING TEEN-AGER--SPIDER-MAN--THE SUPER-HERO WHO COULD BE--YOU!

THE END

SPIDER'S WEB

Please address your letters to:
THE SPIDER'S WEB
Third Floor
655 Madison Ave.
New York 21, N. Y.

Dear Stan and Steve.

Only the team of Lee and Ditko could turn out a masterpiece like the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #5. What a terrific issue! The art was spectacular and I hope to see future issues as good as #5! As for my comparison of the Spider-Man to other Marvel characters, he is the best next to the Fantastic Four. In the future I would like to see Spider-Man tangle with the Incredible Hulk. I think the new comic THE AVENGERS is swell. With such feats as the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN and the AVENGERS, I turn to Marvel Comics ahead of the others! Another of my opinions is that SGT. FURY AND HIS HOWLING COMMANDOS is not worth publishing. You say that the MARVEL COMICS GROUP ushers in the MARVEL AGE OF COMICS – well, you can usher Sgt. Fury and his sloppy associates right out the door, but otherwise, keep up the good work!

David Buset
177 Ivy Drive
Oronda, Calif.

Steve is laughing — he doesn't draw SGT. FURY! But look at poor ol' Stan over there in the corner, weeping! As for the Commandos being sloppy, Dave — there aren't too many good tailor shops in fox-holes! Anyway, we're glad you like SPIDER-MAN, fella!

Dear Stan and Steve.

This morning I walked two miles for SPIDER-MAN #5, and it was well worth it! (The comic, not the walk!) Only one thing bugs me – why do you always put exclamation marks after whatever your characters say? (except for questions)

Gordon Flagg, Jr.
1906 Clairmont Terr.
Atlanta, Ga.

There's a reason for the exclamation marks, Gordon . . . When ordinary periods are used between sentences, they sometimes do not reproduce clearly when the mag is printed and the sentences seem to run together. But, exclamation marks show up much better, thus eliminating the possibility of any confusion.

Dear Stan and Steve.

Since your themes are crimefighters I think that Spider-Man should be recognized for the good he is trying to do by his fellow characters, or by an intimate group of his friends who believe in him and are convinced of his worth. Then he wouldn't have to stand alone as is the case of so many seemingly bad teenagers today.

Lee Snowden
727 So. 56th St.
Phila. 43, Pa.

We're not quite sure what you mean, Lee, but we love the way you said it!

Dear Stan and Steve.

There's one question which has been bugging me ever since I read SPIDER-MAN #6. On page 6 panel 3 the picture has ol' Doc Doom bouncing our boy something fierce. Now where did he get that kind of strength?? ———— Also, since I'm sending this letter I'll ask another question. On page 13 panel 6 Spider-Man has just slithered down through the air vent and is hanging upside-down when he shoots out his spider symbol which comes out rightside up instead of upside-down since he was upside-down and not rightside up . . . how come??!?

Don Powers
2208 Harcourt Drive
Cleveland Heights, Ohio

How come? Because we made a big, fat, bonehead mistake . . . THAT'S how come! As for Doc Doom giving Spidey his lumps, Don — the Doc has always been a mighty foe! If you don't believe it, ask Mr. Fantastic!

Dear Stan and Steve.

Like it said on the cover of SPIDER-MAN #5—"It had to happen!" Spider-Man was just bound to battle Doc Doom sometime. As most readers will agree, Steve Ditko usually does a pretty bad job on the Fantastic Four whenever he draws them. Therefore, you'd think he'd do just as bad a job on Doctor Doom, the FF's arch-foe. Not so! Ditko did an admirable job on the ol' Doc. It's a funny thing about Steve's art—everybody likes the weird and mysterious style he gives Spider-Man, but if he were to illustrate the FF it'd undoubtedly be a flop; same thing if Kirby illustrated Spider-Man!

John Page
5933 Elkport
Lakewood, Calif.

One thing WE always say about Steverino's art, Johnny . . . It's so far out, that it's in!

Dear Stan and Steve.

Your Spider-Man vs. Torch stories are great and the sooner you throw Iceman in them, the sooner the fun will really begin. Ditko's work—at first—I didn't like, but now anyone who sees his work on Spider-Man 12 times a year and still doesn't like it has got to be as nutty as a fruitcake! Steve boy, if I could get to New York, I'd personally tell you how sorry I am about calling your work "the worst of Marvel's". It seems to me that I wasn't in the mood to think straight, or perhaps, I must have been studying my five minute talk on comics that I said in front of Salem High School—and won third prize in doing so! When it comes to drawing Spider-Man in an utterly fantastic way, everyone takes a back seat to you—even Mr. Kirby! While he did a very good job on Spider-Man in the STRANGE TALES ANNUAL, I missed your touch. You are to Spider-Man as Kirby is to Sgt. Fury. If possible, Spider-Man should become a member of some team—he's the only super-hero that you publish regularly that doesn't have a partner or partners—so how about it!?

Michael Fallis
P.O. Box 663
Salem, Mass.

We imagine if the Human Torch were asked, Mike, he'd say: "Sure, Spider-Man should be a member of a team — like Laurel and Hardy, or the Three Stooges!"

Dear Stan and Steve.

I'm writing on SPIDER-MAN #5. My general opinion about it is great! There could have been a few things done differently to make it even better, though. Steve's drawing of the FF and Doc Doom was . . . well . . . shall we say . . .

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not too good? (Shall we say lousy?) I think it was because he isn't used to drawing them, like Kirby is. I think it better that Peter's Aunt May didn't find out about his alter-ego, but I think Steve Perrin's idea about a feminine ally, but not necessarily J.J.J.'s daughter, is good. I also think (boy, I am doing a lot of thinking) David Colman's idea about a Spider-Man Fan Club is a gem. Spider-Man should meet the FF and clear his name—I don't want another Hulk, so to speak. How about a Spider-Man T.V. show? If the show was half as good as the mag it would have no trouble at all getting a sponsor aside from being a smash hit. On page 21, panel 1, Steve drew Sue Storm's hair all wrong—she hasn't worn it like that for some time now! That's about all for now, except keep up the good work and keep putting them out as good as #5 was!

Brady Flowers
10 E. Washington Ave.
Le Center, Minn.

WE'RE willing to have a SPIDER-MAN T.V. show, Brady — but the T.V. industry hasn't yet started breaking down our door to beg for permission! In fact, over at the networks, they probably think SPIDER-MAN is a guy who hunts spiders!

Dear Stan and Steve.

When I first read SPIDER-MAN (issue #3) he didn't seem to be as good as your other super-heroes, but I figured anything with MARVEL scrawled on it had to turn out great. After I read SPIDER-MAN #4 (about 20 times) I fell in love with him. But after I read #5 you could have hauled me away and I wouldn't have cared—I was so overwhelmed. For plot and action it just can't be beaten. I have only one complaint—it is about Ditko's art work. He would be a great artist if he could only learn to draw. All of his characters have square heads and bodies. The only decent looking one is the costumed Spider-Man. Even though Ditko's work isn't the best I've seen, I still think your mag is the greatest.

David Catena
2601 Cambria Ave.
Windber, Pa.

Y'know something? There may not be another issue of SPIDER-MAN! We won't have time to produce it — we'll be too busy burning all these letter pages before Steve can read them! Anyway, Dave, what's wrong with a square head and body? You should see OURS!

Dear Stan and Steve.

A couple of months ago I went to the drugstore with no intention of buying a comic book. As I strolled by the comic rack my eyes latched onto something different—SPIDER-MAN natch! As soon as I bought it I read the adventure-filled book that exploded with excitement. It was new and completely different with the most awesome villains I have ever witnessed. Please don't team up Spider-Man with anyone! He's great as he is! Steve Ditko's art is great, especially the scenes where he pictures our hero leaping or swinging from building to building. I hope you won't have Spider-Man hanging onto one expression like "Holy Hannah!". I have just read issue #5 and thought it was equally tremendous. I think a nationwide fan club would be great as suggested by David Coleman. I cannot find anything wrong with this magazine—it's simply stupendous. Please keep up the good work!

Tommy Key
303 Westover Dr.
Birmingham 9, Ala.

HOLY HANNAH! Are we glad to see your letter, Tommy! Steve was just about to send away for a mail-order course in drawing! Anyway, as far as teaming Spidey up with anyone is concerned, we've no plans to do so at present — and our mail is pretty evenly divided about it! Some fans say we HAVE TO team him up — and others say we shouldn't DARE do it! So we'll stand pat for the present!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION:

- **Well, the suspense is killing us! It's time to send this ish to the printers, and SPIDER-MAN #7 hasn't gone on sale yet, so we STILL haven't received any letters from you telling how you feel about our dropping the letters page! But, the tally will be in by NEXT ish and we'll give you the straight scoop at that time!**

- **So, let's see now — we've got an announcements section, so we ought to find something to announce in it! One thing we should mention is the difficulty some of you fans say you're having in finding our mags. We've received many letters telling us that some stores and newsstands don't carry SPIDER-MAN and other Marvel mags — or, that they're sold out by the time you get to the stands — or some such thing. Unfortunately, it is almost impossible for us to control the distribution of our mags at the dealer level. We make sure our issues get to each city, but after that it's up to the individual wholesalers to deliver them to each store. And, sometimes, the storekeeper himself doesn't bother displaying all the mags he receives. The best thing you can do is keep ASKING your dealer for the mags you want. Tell him to reserve your copy each month. If he hears it enough, who knows? He might even realize he's got some best-sellers right under his nose that he didn't even know about!**

- **No sense our mentioning the features which will appear in the other Marvel mags this month, because they're listed in the Special Announcements Section of FANTASTIC FOUR #23, also on sale at this time, and most of you SPIDER-MAN readers also read the FF. But, let's see what ISN'T mentioned in the FF. . . .**

- **JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY has a featurette about The Boyhood of Thor which we think you might like. It shows Thor and Loki as youngsters — and y'know something? Loki hasn't improved a bit with age!**

- **Ish #3 of X-MEN, now on sale, is the first issue which really plays up their various personalities! It'll show you that The Beast ISN'T really like The Thing, as many readers have implied. Lots of fans have asked to see SPIDER-MAN together with the X-MEN — what do YOU think?**

- **Have you been following our The Wasp Tells a Tale feature in TALES TO ASTONISH? This ish (#52) has a cutie called Not What They Seem — but the best cutie of all, natch, is The Wasp herself!**

- **The Watcher is back in TALES OF SUSPENSE with a nifty called Journey's End. We're getting real fond of The Watcher! Some day we hope we can find a way to feature him a bit more than we're doing at present! Any ideas?**

- **Oops! We almost forgot! The current ish of FANTASTIC FOUR (#23) brings back Doctor Doom, aided and abetted by a team of mighty unusual flunkies! Also, it shows the FF on the verge of splitting up and electing themselves a new leader! It's written by Stan, drawn by Jack Kirby, and produced by Marvel! What more can we say?**

- **Smiling Stevey Ditko doesn't want us to tell you what the next SPIDER-MAN will be about! He thinks you'll get more of a kick out of it if you're surprised. (If you ask US, he and Stan just haven't WRITTEN it yet!) Anyway, it's not too long to wait . . . and so, till we meet again, here's hoping you continue to find as much enjoyment in our mags as we find in your wonderful, loyal support!**